

TOP SECRET

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GENERAL

NO. 628

1. UK insists on sole control over Cyrenaica--The US delegation at the UN has been informed by the chief of the British delegation that British Foreign Secretary Bevin has personally instructed him to: (a) press for sole UK trusteeship over Cyrenaica; (b) express willingness to accept in principle the suggested preliminary arrangements for achieving multilateral trusteeship of Libya, but only insofar as they pertain to Tripolitania; (c) urge the US to accept trusteeship over Tripolitania, if no other solution seems feasible; and (d) settle for postponement of the Cyrenaica question if everything else fails. Bevin indicated that if such postponement occurs, the UK will go ahead with an agreement with the Cyrenaica leader and with measures for self-government. Bevin directed the British delegate to remind the US of its 1947 firm pledge to support UK trusteeship over Cyrenaica.

C/A- 5

(CIA Comment: British insistence upon sole trusteeship over Cyrenaica sharply reduces the prospects for any compromise agreement on multilateral trusteeship for all Libya and thus diminishes the likelihood of any decision on Libya at this session of the General Assembly.)

2. US not to press Israeli UN membership--The Department of State has informed the US delegation to the UN that the US is not yet in a position to sponsor a resolution for Israel's admission to the UN. The Department indicates that the US awaits Israeli assurances concerning the status of Jerusalem, the Arab refugee problem, and territorial settlement, so that a favorable atmosphere will be created for Israel's admission. The US will still support the Israeli application, whenever the General Assembly actually considers it.

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3. **CHINA:** Li reportedly sending emissary to US--US Counselor Clark in Canton reports that the principal political adviser to Acting President Li Tsung-jen intends to come to the US bearing a letter from Li to President Truman. Clark adds that the Li group claims the support of various South China military leaders and will attempt to remove Chiang's appointee, Chen Cheng, from the governorship of Taiwan. In addition, Li's advisers have outlined to Clark a program of military and administrative reform through which they hope to revive Nationalist fighting spirit, produce victories, and thus persuade the US to grant further aid.

C/A - 5

(CIA Comment: CIA believes that in view of the Communist crossing of the Yangtze and the conflicting interests of Li and Chiang Kai-shek, there is even less reason than heretofore for any optimism regarding Nationalist rejuvenation.)

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